

(b) if so, the action taken so far in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government have recently resolved certain issues necessary to enable the finalisation of the Power Purchase Agreement to be entered into between the Power Project of M/s. Hinduja with APSEB and the Coal Supply cum Transportation Agreement to be entered into between Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd., South Eastern Railways and the Power Company.

Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd.

6534. SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the policy of the Government was tailored more to encourage import of boilers/power generator rather than placing order on BHEL;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the established capacity of BHEL and its utilisation during each of the last three years;

(c) the details of fresh policy initiatives taken to reverse the trend during 1996-97 and result thereof; and

(d) the details of performance of BHEL during 1996-97 targets set for 1997-98 with major expansion/diversification plans ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (c) No Sir. However, the installed capacity alongwith its utilisation for power generators (TG sets) and boilers and its auxiliaries for the last three years is as under :

Sl. No.	Installed Capacity	Product/Capacity		Utilisation MW/MT
		1995-96	1994-95	
1.	Boilers & Auxls.	93802 MT	77437 MT	67771 MT Capacity = 165000 (57%) (47%) (41%) MT/Yr.
2.	Power Generators	2390 MW on MW completion (41%)	1382 MW (24%)	2108 MW (36%) capacity = 5845 MW/Yr.

(D) Major performance parameters for 1996-97 are as follows :

	Rs./Crs.		
	1995-96	1996-97*	Up by
Turnover	4833	5740	19%
Profit Before Tax	582	848	46%

*Subject to Audit.

20% dividend has been paid for 1995-96.

A turnover target of Rs. 6050 Crores has been budgeted for 1997-98.

The major products planned for production in the year 1997-98 under Diversification/Expansion plan include Gas Turbines, Traction Equipment, WH Boilers, Heat Exchangers and Pressure Vessels & certain Defence equipment etc.

Meeting between Tobacco Board & Tobacco Manufacturers

6535. SHRI N. RAMAKRISHNA REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Tobacco Board conducted any meeting for encouraging trading companies engaged in exports and others to buy virginia tobacco lying with farmers in the current season;

(b) if so, the details of such meetings held with traders and manufacturers; and

(c) if not, the steps taken by the Government to provide remunerative price to the farmers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b) Tobacco Board has held number of meetings with the tobacco traders, manufacturers and exporters wherein issues relating to ongoing tobacco auctions, payment of remunerative prices to farmers and efforts to purchase all tobacco offered on the auction platforms have been discussed. The response of the trade has been positive and they have assured to take all measures to lift the tobacco offered on auction platforms at remunerative prices keeping the international and domestic demand and supply position in view.

(c) Does not arise.

Annual Bio-Gas Seminar

6536. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that in the